

Atlanta Geological Society

c/o President: Ben Bentkowski, P.G.
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Official Lecture/Field Trip Attendance Record for Professional Development Hours

Tuesday, May 26, 3030

The Georgia coast and its barrier islands are justifiably world-famous for both their natural and human histories, from the Pleistocene to the present. Still, these histories are not always obvious to casual visitors on the coast, especially if not trained in detecting their sometimes-subtle clues. In this talk, Dr. Martin will explain a few of the remarkable stories told by animal and human traces on the Georgia coast, and how these traces help us better understand its past, present, and probable future. For example, trace fossils enabled geologists to discover that the remains of ancient barrier islands on the lower coastal plain of Georgia, and traces help show how Georgia barrier island ecosystems – maritime forests, salt marshes, dunes, beaches – are as much the products of plant and animal behavior as they are of geology. He will also show how modern Georgia traces help paleontologists interpret trace fossils from millions of years ago. Dr. Martin will review a few human traces on the Georgia coast, such as Native American shell rings on Sapelo Island, cobbled streets of Savannah paved with the ballast stones of slave ships, and the effects of invasive species. Finally, Dr. Martin will look at the ultimate human trace, climate change, with its anticipated rising sea levels and extreme weather. For this, he will propose how traces of the past and present may help us better predict the uncertain future of the coast.

Date of Lecture	Lecture Topic	Sponsor	Speaker	PDH Hours
5/26/20	Tracking the Golden Isles, or 2020, A Space Odyssey	Zoom mtg. – no sponsor	Tony Martin, Ph.D. Professor Emory University	1

Signature of Attendee

Date

Print Name

License Number